NUMB. CCCVIII.

The SPECTATOR.

——Jam proterva
Fronte petet Lalage maritum. Hor.

Friday, February 22. 1712.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

I Give you this Trouble in order to propose my self to you as an Assistant in the weighty Cares which you have thought fit to undergo for the publick Good. I am a very great Lover of Women, that is to say honestly; and as it is natural to study what one loves, I have industriously applied my self to understand them. The present Circumstance relating to them, is, that I think there wants under you, as SPECTATOR, a Person to be distinguished and vested in the Power and Quality of a Censor of Marriages. I lodge at the *Temple*, and know, seeing Women come hither, and afterwards observing them conducted by their Council to Judges Chambers, that there is a Custom in Case of making Conveyance of a Wife's Estate, that she is carried to a Judge's Apartment and left alone with him, to be examined in private whether she has not been frightened or sweetned by her Spouse into the Act she is going to do, or whether it is of her own free Will. Now if this be a Method founded upon Reason and Equity, why should there not be also a proper Officer for examining such as are entering into the State of Matrimony, whether they are forced by Parents on one Side, or moved by Interest only on the other, to come together, and bring forth such untoward Heirs as are the Product of half Love and constrained Compliances? There is no Body, though I say it my self, would be fitter for this Office than I am; for I am an ugly Fellow of great Wit and Sagacity. My Father was an honest Country-'Squire, my Mother a witty Beauty of no Fortune: The Match was made by Consent of my Mother's Parents against her own; and I am the Child of the Rape on the Wedding-Night; so that I am as healthy and homely as my Father, but as sprightly and agreeable as my Mother. It would be of great Ease to you if you would use me under you, that Matches might be better regulated for the future, and we might have no more Children of Squabbles. I shall not reveal all my Pretentions till I receive your Answer; and am,

SIR,

Your most humble Servant,

Mules Palfrey.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

I Am one of those unfortunate Men within the City-Walls who am married to a Woman of Quality, but her Temper is something different from that of Lady *Anvill*. My Lady's whole Time and Thoughts are spent in keeping up to the Mode both in Apparel and Furniture. All the Goods in my House have been changed three times in seven Years. I have had seven Children by her; and by our Marriage-Articles she was to have her Apartment new furnished as often as she lay in. Nothing in our House is useful but that which is fashionable; my Pewter holds out generally half a Year, my Plate a full Twelve-month; Chairs are not fit to sit in that were made two Years since, nor Beds fit for any thing but to sleep in that have stood up above that Time. My Dear is of Opinion that an old-fashion Grate consumes Coals, but gives no Heat: If she drinks out of Glasses of last Year, she cannot distinguish Wine from Small-Beer. Oh dear Sir you may guess all the rest.

Yours.

P. S. I could bear even all this, if I were not obliged also to eat *fashionably*. I have a plain Stomach, and have a constant loathing of whatever comes to my own Table; for which Reason I dine at the *Chop-House* three Days a Week: Where the good Company wonders they never see you of late. I am sure by your unprejudiced Discourses, you love Broth better than Soup.

Mr. SPECTATOR, *Will's, Feb.* 19.

YOU may believe you are a Person as much talked of as any Man in Town. I am one of your best Friends in this House, and have laid a Wager you are so candid a Man and so honest a Fellow, that you will print this Letter, tho' it is in Recommendation of a new Paper called *The Historian*. I have read it carefully, and find it written with Skill, good Sense, Modesty, and Fire. You must allow the Town is kinder to you than you deserve; and I doubt not but you have so much Sense of the World, Change of Humour, and Instability of all humane Things, as to understand, that the only Way to preserve Favour, is to communicate it to others with Good-Nature and Judgment. You are so generally read, that what you speak of will be read. This with Men of Sense and Taste is all that is wanting to recommend *The Historian*.

I am,

SIR,

Your daily Advocate,

Reader Gentle.

I was very much surprized this Morning, that any one should find out my Lodging, and know it so well, as to come directly to my Closet-Door, and knock at it, to give me the following Letter. When I came out I opened it, and saw by a very strong Pair of Shoes and a warm Coat the Bearer had on, that he walked all the Way to bring it me, tho' dated from *York*. My Misfortune is that I cannot talk, and I found the Messenger had so much of me, that he could think better than

than ſpeak. He had, I obſerved, a polite Diſcerning hid under a ſhrewd Ruſticity: He delivered the Paper with a Yorkſhire Tone and a Town Leer.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

'THE Privilege you have indulg'd *John Trot* has 'prov'd of very bad Conſequence to our il-'luſtrious Aſſembly, which, beſides the many ex-'cellent Maxims it is founded upon, is remarka-'ble for the extraordinary Decorum always obſerv-'ed in it. One Inſtance of which is, that the *Ca-'dets*, (who are always of the firſt Quality) never 'begin to play till the French-Dances are finiſh'd 'and the Country-Dances begin: But *John Trot* 'having now got your Commiſſion in his Pocket, '(which every one here has a profound Reſpect 'for) has the Aſſurance to ſet up for a Minuit-'Dancer. Not only ſo, but he has brought down 'upon us the whole Body of the *Trots*, which are 'very numerous, with their Auxiliaries the Hob-'blers and the Skippers; by which Means the 'Time is ſo much waſted, that unleſs we break all 'Rules of Government, it muſt redound to the ut-'ter Subverſion of the *Bric-Table*, the diſcreet 'Members of which value Time as *Friſle's* 'Wife does her Pin-Money. We are pretty 'well aſſur'd that your Indulgence to *Trot* was 'only in Relation to Country-Dances; howe-'ver, we have deferred the iſſuing an Order 'of Council upon the Premiſſes, hoping to get you 'to joyn with us, that *Trot*, nor any of his Clan, 'preſume for the future to dance any but Country-'Dances, unleſs a Horn Pipe upon a Feſtival Day. 'If you will do this you will oblige a great many 'Ladies, and particularly

Your moſt humble Servant,

York, Feb. 16. Elid. Sweepſtakes.

'I Never meant any other than that Mr. *Trot* 'ſhould confine himſelf to Country-Dances: 'And I further direct, that he ſhall take out none 'but his own Relations according to their Nearneſs 'of Blood, but any Gentlewoman may take out 'him.

London, Feb. 21. *The* SPECTATOR.

Acted but once theſe Four Years.

By Her Majeſty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, this preſent Friday, being the 22d of February, will be reviv'd a Comedy call'd, The Comical Revenge; or, Love in a Tub. By her Majeſty's Command no Perſons are to be admitted behind the Scenes.

From the Office in Ironmonger-Lane.

In Purſuance of the Articles for eſtabliſhing a Mutual Contribution for enſuring Proviſions for Children, &c. a Dividend of the ſaid Contributions will be made at Lady-Day next, and all Perſons concern'd are deſired to bring in their Claims within the Time limited in the Articles, viz. on or before the 21ſt of March next, for upon the Neglect thereof they will receive no Benefit until the Dividend following. N. B. Attendance is conſtantly given at the ſaid Office for admitting Contributors, and diſpatching other the Affairs of the ſaid Contribution, and the Propoſals are given gratis.

All Gentlemen that intend to have Dr. Bentley's Horace, may have them of Chriſtopher Bateman in Pater-Noſter-Row at 20 s. in Sheets till Lady-Day next, after which Time they will not be ſold under 25 s.

Verdier's Hummums is in Belton-ſtreet, the End of Prowlow-ſtreet, where Perſons may be privately ſweated, bathed and cupped, with the ſame Inſtrument he himſelf firſt invented, and is uſed no where elſe but at the ſaid Verdier's Houſe, and exceeds all others, tho' ſeveral have and do ſtill endeavour to counterfeit the ſame. All Perſons who deſire to be cupped at their own Houſes, ſhall be carefully attended by his Succeſſor (a German) Daniel Hahn, who has practiſed it theſe many Years paſt. Note, It is falſly reported that the Houſe is ſet off.

The Hudſon's Bay-Company having [illegible] Sum of 12301 9 s. 10 d. as the 2d Dividend of Mo[illegible] ing informed of ſome Frauds deſigned at their 3d Di[illegible] prentices, which will be paid the 2d of April next, [illegible] Propoſals, they therefore give Notice, That whoſoe[illegible] any Perſon who ſhall preſume to make Claim on any Cl[illegible] prentice who was either Dead, Married, or Deſerted from [illegible] Maſter's or Miſtreſs's Service before the Expiration of [illegible] or Indenture, ſhall upon Proof of ſuch Fraud receive the Sum of [illegible] Reward, to be paid by the Company's Regiſter, provided [illegible] Proof be made before the 25th of March next. Note, That [illegible] who are Regiſtred for Marriages are not obliged to continue [illegible] longer than 6 Months; and any Clerk or Apprentice may be Regiſ[illegible] who have not leſs than 15 Months to ſerve; and that ſuch who [illegible] ceived at the 2d Dividend on Marriages, and have no yet made the[illegible] Re-entries, are required to do the ſame on or before the 25th of [illegible] Inſtant February; or elſe ſhall be excluded. Proviſions are given Gratis at the ſaid Company's Houſe in Fenchurch-ſtreet, where [illegible] tendance is given from 10 till 2, and from 4 till 7 in the Evening.

Notice is hereby given, that at Mr. Will[illegible] Watkins's Mountain-Vault in Queen's Head Alley near the [illegible] St. James's ſtreet, is ſold by Retale excellent Mountain [illegible] Wine at 6 s. 8 d. per Gallon or 1 s. 9 d. per Quart, being a [illegible] Parcel, juſt landed, and of the beſt Growth in Spain.

Air-Pumps both ſingle and double Barrell'd, w[illegible] Apparitus for demonſtrating the ſeveral Properties of the Ai[illegible] chines for condenſing Air, ſmall Air-Pumps, with Gl[illegible] new Way of Cupping; Scarrifi-tors, one which at once makes [illegible] another 13, another 16 effectual Incitions; Syringes [illegible] with Valves for Anotomical Injections; Hydroſtatical Ballance[illegible] finding the Specifick Gravities of Liquids and Solids with [illegible] Accuracy. All which according to the latelt and beſt Improv[illegible] with Directions how to uſe and order them on all Occaſions, [illegible] in Kind-Court, Bleep-ſtreet, by Fran. Hauksbee, Son [illegible] them, Fellow of the Royal Society, where likewiſe may be [illegible] new ſort of Spirit of Wine, Lamps and Glaſſes for burning [illegible] perfumed Dir Grand. Price of a Lamp, 6 Cupping Glaſſes, and a [illegible] of highly rectified Spirit of Wine 5 s. 6 d.

Wm Tazwell undertakes to accompliſh Gent[illegible] men, or other Perſons of either Sex above the Age of 14 Years, [illegible] the compleat Knowledge of the Latin Tongue, and make them [illegible] ble of rendring Latin into Engliſh, and Engliſh into Latin, by [illegible] Attendance only an Hour as a time 3 Days in a Week) in a ſhort [illegible] time from his firſt beginning to teach them, tho' they never [illegible] the Language before: And that by an eaſie practical Method [illegible] tirely new, founded upon unchangable Reaſon and Experience, [illegible] wholly free from the tedious Forms of Schools, as not to require [illegible] Study or Pains, or be in the leaſt burthenſome to the Memory, [illegible] pleaſant as well as profitable, and does not tire the Perſon's Fancy [illegible] in Learning, or break the Thoughts from, or hinder any Affair [illegible] He is to be agreed with next the Blue Anchor and Crown in Prince [illegible] Street near Stocks-Market, the lower end of the Street, where [illegible] may be taught, or at their own Dwelling.

A very good Brick Houſe, with a pretty Garde[illegible] a Coach houſe, Stables, Out-houſes, a handſome Court-yard, and [illegible] things Convenient, to be Lett at Wanſtead in Eſſex. Enquire at [illegible] Steel's Coffee houſe in Bread-ſtreet.

Lately Publiſhed,

The laſt New Comedy, call'd the Perplex'd Lovers, as it is acted at the Theatre Royal in Drury Lane, by [illegible] Maj: ties Servants. Written by Mrs. Suſanna Centlivre. Printed for Owen Lloyd near the Church in the Temple, William Lew[illegible] under Tom's Coffee-Houſe in Covent Garden, John Graves at [illegible] White's Chocolate-Houſe in St. James's Street, and Tho. Hat[illegible] in the Lower Walk of the New Exchange in the Strand.

A Set of the Cries of London, conſiſting of [illegible] Prints, taken off from ſo many Copper Plates curiouſly engra[illegible] each drawn after the Life. By the famous M. Laroon. Printed [illegible] ſold by Henry Overton, at the White Horſe without Newgate, [illegible] 10 s.

Juſt Publiſhed,

The Offers of France explain'd. Printed for A. Baldwin at the Oxford Arms in Warwick-Lane. Pr. 3 d. Where may be had, The Allies and the late Miniſtry defended againſt Ha[illegible] and the preſent Friends of France.

Lately publiſh'd,

Palmyra; being Poems on ſeveral Subjects, viz. the Captive, the Parting, Complaint againſt Time, complaining Abſence, Abſence not to be endured, on receiving a Snail, preferring Wit and Beauty before Wealth, to Palmyra putting her Maid [illegible] Advice to a young Lady concerning Marriage, &c. Sold by B. Prin[illegible] ton at Eſſex-Street End againſt St. Clement's Church in the Stra[illegible] Price 6 d.

The Magiſterial Gout Pills and Tincture, which infallibly give Eaſe in the moſt raging Fits, by gently carrying off the peccant Matter, and wonderfully relieving the ſwitch'd and ſtretched Nerves. The ſaid Pills and Tincture have a moſt powerful Effect in curing Rheumatiſms. Prepar'd only by T. Higgs, Apothecary, at the Peſtle and Mortar on Clerkenwell Green, where are to be ſold, (and have been above 20 Years) the famous Drops to prevent Miſcarriage.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertiſements are taken in: as alſo by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* in the *Strand*.